

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicant proposes to amend Claims 1 and 14. Upon entry of the proposed amendment, Claims 1-17 will remain for consideration. Claims 1 and 11 are independent claims.

In the Final Office Action Claim 14 was objected to because of an informality. Applicant has amended the instant claim to replace the term “stopper” with -- plug – at line 7 in compliance with he Examiner’s suggestion. Also, the comma (“,”) at line 7 in Claim 1 has been deleted after “air” and a comma has been inserted after “line” to correct an obvious error. These amendments should obviate the objections to these particular claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner appears to raise two questions on page 2 of the rejection.

First, The Examiner states that it is not clear that all the air is dispelled through outlet 26. Applicant concedes that the use of the adjective “all” is misleading. The descriptive phrase “substantially all” more accurately describes the conditions in the chamber during the dispelling process. In the interest of clarity, the specification has been amended accordingly.

Second, it is unclear to the Examiner when and why the plunger unseats from the liquid inlet when there is pressurized air continuously entering the chamber. The Examiner considers that a step or information is missing from the specification (for example an air compressor or control valve cut off). In section 7 of the rejection (page 4-2nd paragraph), the Examiner appears to answer the query as to when and why the plunger unseats from the inlet. Applicant considers that the above-cited paragraph provides an adequate explanation regarding the unseating of the plunger.

The third paragraph of section 7 questions the ability of a sealed (underlined for emphasis) chamber to attain a pressure drop to approximately 10 psi. It is noted that Applicant's chamber is not sealed. Outlet 26a provides an opening to a lower pressure environment. Applicant has determined that when liquid and air are dispelled through outlet 26a there is a momentary pressure drop to approximately 10psi which allows the plunger to fall back to seal the inlet even though air continues to enter.

An advantage of Applicant's invention is that, with the exception of the plunger, there is a dearth of moving parts, cut-off valves or switches that might fail or require maintenance. This dearth greatly reduces operating costs.

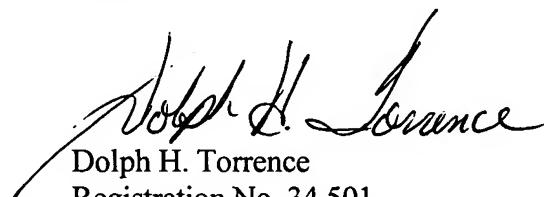
Applicant has made a *bona fide* effort to respond to the Examiner's questions. Except for the minor revisions to Claims 1 and 14, Claims 1-17 remain unchanged, no new issues having been presented. Entry of the proposed amendment is respectfully requested.

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For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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